

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected Claims 5-6 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants have canceled Claims 5-6 without prejudice or disclaimer.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 7, 8 and 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Harrod et al. (U.S. Patent 6,401,992). Applicants have canceled Claims 7, 8 and 14-16 without prejudice or disclaimer.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1, 5-9, 13-16 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Uchikoshi (U.S. Patent 6,758,377). Applicants have canceled Claims 1, 5-9, 13-16 and 18 without prejudice or disclaimer.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 2-4, and 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Uchikoshi (U.S. Patent 6,758,377). Applicants have canceled Claims 2-4 and 10-12 without prejudice or disclaimer.

The Examiner has rejected Claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harrod et al. (U.S. Patent 6,401,992). Applicants have canceled Claim 17 without prejudice or disclaimer.

The Examiner has stated that Claims 19 and 20 are allowed.

All grounds of rejection having been overcome by the amendments hereinabove, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in regard to Claims 19 and 20.



EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

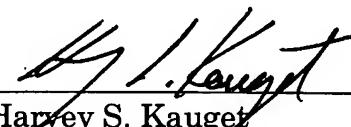
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File No. 382117.00013

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the Amendment A; Transmittal Form; and return receipt postcard are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated and is addressed to the Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

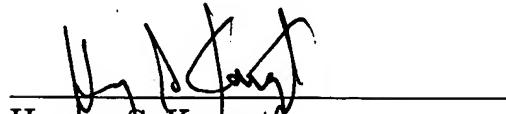
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1667.



Harvey S. Kauget



Respectfully submitted,

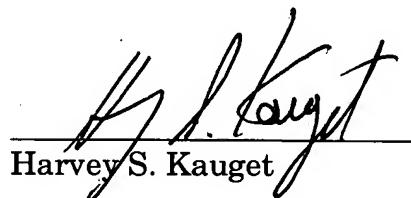


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing was placed in an envelope and mailed via Express Mail, postage paid, to the Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 , on this the 5th day of January, 2006.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-1667.



Harvey S. Kauget